



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

*P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 753-6780 • [www.governor.wa.gov](http://www.governor.wa.gov)*

May 9, 2005

To the Honorable President and Members,  
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning, without my approval as to Section 1, Substitute Senate Bill No. 5139 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to highway and bridge tolling authority."

Section 1 of Substitute Senate Bill No. 5139 transfers the authority for approving construction of toll roads from the Department of Transportation (Department) to the Transportation Commission (Commission). Now that the Commission no longer has oversight authority, and the Department is a cabinet level agency, it is inappropriate for the Commission to be approving construction of transportation facilities.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 1 of Substitute Senate Bill No. 5139.

With the exception of Section 1, Substitute Senate Bill No. 5139 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor